

PHOTOSHOP FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS

THE COMPLETE BEGINNERS
GUIDE TO MASTERING
PHOTOSHOP IN 24 HOURS
OR LESS!



EDWARD BAILEY

PHOTOSHOP
For
Photographers

*The Beginner's Guide to Mastering
Photoshop and Create Professional
Looking Photos and Images in 24 Hours
or Less!*

Secrets of Color Grading and Photo Manipulation!

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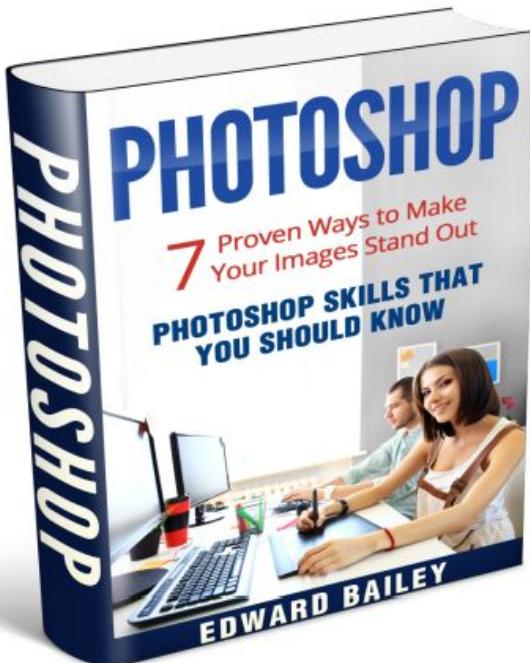
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BEFORE YOU GO

CHECK OUT MY OTHER BOOKS

Photoshop

Book 1

***The Beginner's Guide to Mastering
Photoshop, With Tutorials on How to
Create Professional Looking Photos and
Images in 24 Hours or Less!***

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Introduction

This book contains proven steps and strategies on how to easily learn the basics of Photoshop.

In this book, you will first be introduced to Photoshop's origins and general uses. You will then learn about the basic tools, which you will need in order to edit and style your photos just like the professionals do. You will learn what color grading is and why it is so popular today, what you should never do in Photoshop, why Photoshop is considered the best image editing software on the market, and why it is used worldwide by so many professionals.

Thanks again for downloading this book. I hope you enjoy it!

Chapter 1: What Is Photoshop? A Quick Run down Memory Lane

Almost every person in the world has heard of Photoshop. The software has become so popular throughout the years that its name has since become a verb, which is synonymous to “digital manipulation or editing of images. You often hear this phrase: “Yes, this photo is Photoshopped” to mean that the photo was edited or altered. Photoshop has become very popular, since its introduction to the market by the Knoll brothers. These two brothers, Thomas, and John Knoll, developed the code for Photoshop in 1987. Their father, Glenn Knoll, was a college professor and a photo enthusiast. Because of this, they had a darkroom at the basement of their home where Glenn manipulated and developed his photos. Glen was also a technology fan; he was one of the first owners of the Apple II Plus, a personal computer. These hobbies, combined with the very intuitive nature of the Knolls, paved the way for the development of the digital image processing application that we all know as Photoshop.

The brothers, specifically Thomas Knoll, wrote subroutines on an Apple Mac Plus pc when the software on his computer was not able to render a gray scale level in his image for his PhD work. These subroutines became the precursors of the first version of Photoshop. From these subroutines, Thomas teamed up with his brother, John, to come up with a digital image processing application that they called “Display,” in 1987. Later, they changed the name to “Image Pro” in order to incorporate a more refined version of their software. They tried to sell the application commercially to different technology-driven companies, specifically to Silicon Valley. One company, BarneyScan, offered to bundle the image application with their slide scanner. About 200 copies of Knoll’s software were shipped, along with their products. It was not until the Knoll brothers presented and demonstrated the power of their application to Adobe’s creative team that their luck had dramatically changed. The Internal Creative team of Adobe loved the product and they proposed a licensing agreement. After 10 months of software development, in February 1990, Adobe shipped out and made available commercially, Photoshop 1.0.

Photoshop is a very powerful application, some would say too powerful, because there is almost nothing you cannot do using Photoshop. Today, millions of photographers, web designers, graphic designers, artists, and even teachers, use Photoshop. It is very possible that every photo you have ever seen on the internet or in magazines or even movie posters and book covers, have been created or edited using Photoshop. Today, Photoshop is not only used for commercial purposes, a great number of forensic technicians, medical researchers,

medical professionals, and scientific researchers use it as well.

Although Photoshop is intended to be used by professionals, and it is really a very powerful, complex, and sophisticated program, those like us who are merely image editing enthusiasts, can also take advantage of its many features. It is true that with every new version of Photoshop released, so many new tools and features are available to learn. However, with this e-book as your guide, expect the journey of learning Photoshop to be exciting and quite fulfilling. We will get you up and running, doing image editing in no time.

As of this writing, the Adobe Photoshop Family of software includes not only the Adobe Photoshop CC application, but also, Photoshop Lightroom, Photoshop Elements, and Premiere elements. This family of software can be your greatest ally when it comes to unleashing your creativity and transforming your digital images in more extraordinary ways.

Throughout the years, many new versions of Photoshop have been presented, and the software itself has changed a lot from the first version. With every new version of the software, many new features, options, and tools have been added. From the Photoshop application, developed by the Knolls, the software went through several modifications, specifically when Adobe acquired the license to distribute the product. Adobe launched the “Adobe Creative Suites” branding in 2003. The newest version of this software is Cs 6. As of June 2014, the Adobe Photoshop family of software moved to the cloud and it is now called Photoshop CC (Creative Cloud).

As a powerful digital image editing software, there had been reported cases of extreme image manipulation, especially in the fashion industry, to deceive viewers. Several print or digital magazines highlight images of models or fashion icons. However, upon closer inspection, it was found out that these images had been altered or edited. Some even say they were “Photoshopped.” This situation had caused a public outrage to the point that public demonstrations were held in front of fashion magazine offices, demanding that they use unaltered photos of models. According to these protestors, the magazines are sending a wrong message about real beauty by manipulating images to make their models look almost perfect.

The next chapters will go deeper on the program itself, and focus on the learning of different features and tools to help you develop your Photoshop skills, even if you are still an amateur in terms of digital photo editing.

Using Photoshop For The First Time: What You Must Know And What You Can Do With It

If you have never used Photoshop before, you probably don't have this program installed on your computer yet. Therefore, the first step on how to learn this powerful software is to download and install it on your computer. Adobe offers a free 30-day trial, so if you have never used Photoshop before, you will have enough time to find out if Photoshop is a good match for you and your needs. Photoshop is professional software and it is very expensive, but the good thing is that if you find that Photoshop is too complex or expensive for you, there are some less complicated and less expensive alternatives to this software. There are also discounts for students or teachers who would only use the software on a limited basis.

Once you download and install Photoshop on your computer, look for it on your "programs" menu and open it. When you open Photoshop for the first time, you will need to get acquainted with it; that is, to know where everything is located. Of course, you cannot learn and memorize everything in one sitting. The important thing is to open the program often and browse the different options and menus available.

On the top, you will see many different menu options. Each one offers a great number of choices that can be made by simply clicking on a wanted choice. On the left side of the screen, you will see a large number of tool icons. This is also called a tool bar. Some of the tools have a small triangle on the right bottom corner. This means that this tool has more options. By clicking on the triangle, you will be able to see the additional choices. On the right side of the screen, you will see some boxes with words like layers, channels, styles, etc., which will be explained in detail in later chapters.

After you are acquainted with Photoshop, you will need to open a Photo you wish to edit. There are a few ways to open an image in Photoshop. The easiest way is to click on "file" on the menu bar, then click on "open", and then, you choose an image you wish to edit. When you do this, you will see the image you chose on the canvas and you can start editing.

Chapter 2: Using Photoshop for the First Time: What You Must Know and What You Can Do With It

Photoshop is an image editing software. That being said, in Photoshop, you can edit images in any way you want. You can add or remove persons and objects, you can change the background completely, and you can combine two or more images and create a completely new and entirely different image. You can also restore old photos, add text to photos, and create 3D animations. You can also correct mistakes in photos; we all know that taking a perfect photo is practically impossible. No matter how good a photo is, there is always something that we would like to alter or edit or change entirely. Photoshop enables us to do just that; to make our already good photos better.

In Photoshop, you can create an image from scratch. Photoshop can be very fun to use because you can create images of things that are impossible to happen in real life; all you need is your imagination. You can also create web banners and buttons and you can combine photos and text - the options are limitless.

Your mind is the limit of your creativity. This is the main reason Photoshop is so popular and the most used image editing software today.

Even though many photo enthusiasts consider Photoshop as something “magical” and believe that there is almost nothing you cannot do in Photoshop, still, there are some things that even Photoshop cannot fix. If a person took a photo from a bad camera position, there are limited things you can do to fix it. For example, if you are too far from the object, you can fix that by simply cropping the photo. If you are closer to your photo subject; unfortunately, you cannot do anything to move the image backward.

Another example of photo mistakes that even Photoshop cannot fix is when you photograph and catch an object in motion and the photo turns out blurred. In Photoshop, you cannot change the direction from which the light is coming. If an image is out of focus, you cannot fix it with Photoshop. Photoshop is very powerful software, but there are still some limits to its capability in manipulating images. When the photo that makes up the foundation of your work is weak or wrong, then it is next to impossible for Photoshop to change it. There are things that simply cannot be fixed, not even in Photoshop.

In the next chapter, you will learn about the basic tools you will need

as a beginner in using Photoshop. You will also learn what each of those tools do and how to use them. There are also keyboard shortcuts for these tools, and learning those keyboard shortcuts can make your work more efficient, once you remember them.

Chapter 3: Basic Tools in Photoshop

As discussed in previous chapters, the developers of Photoshop intended the software for professional use and for those who are hardcore photography enthusiasts. Nevertheless, because of its power to alter photos and to create graphics from scratch, even those who are casual photo editors want to learn how to use Photoshop for editing their own personal photos. For many people using Photoshop for the first time, this task can be quite challenging because this is a very sophisticated and complex software application. Learning it is challenging; yes, but not impossible, even for those of us who are not professional photographers or graphic artists. It is possible to learn the basics and successfully edit your own photos in a very short amount of time. The key to this is to first learn the basic tools that you will need to use often. Of course, after learning the tools, you have to learn how to use them properly.

In Photoshop, you will find a great number of tools, but as a beginner, you will only need to learn how to use the basic tools: the Move Tool, the Marquee Tools, the Lasso Tool, the Magic Wand Tool, the Crop Tool, the Eyedropper Tool, the Spot Healing Brush, the Red Eye Tool, the Paint Brush Tool, the Eraser Tool, the Pencil Tool, the Clone Stamp Tool, and the Gradient Tool. These are the essential tools that everyone who wants to use Photoshop successfully should learn how to use.

The Move Tool is the first option on the tool bar. It allows you to move objects within the photo. This is a very basic tool and it is very easy to use.

The Marquee Tool lets you select any object of rectangular or elliptical shape. This is very useful because it is much faster than hand drawing around the desired object.

The Lasso Tool allows you to select an area of the image by hand-drawing, which is very useful if you want to select objects of an irregular shape.

The Magic Wand Tool When using this tool, you click on any area of the photo and all surrounding areas of similar color are automatically selected. You can apply the Magic Wand Tool more than once to select portions of your image with different colors.

The Crop Tool allows you to crop any section of an image. This is another basic, easy-to-use tool.

The Eyedropper Tool allows you to take samples of a certain color and apply them to other parts of your image.

The Spot Healing Brush is very useful if you are editing a portrait. It allows you to remove blemishes from a persons' skin. This is one of the most-used Photoshop tools, popular with both professionals and amateurs.

The Red Eye Tool is also often used for portraits. When using the Red Eye Tool, it is possible to eliminate the red color that often shows in the eyes of photographed subjects. All you need to do is click on the red area of the eye and let Photoshop remove all the red automatically.

The Brush Tool is a basic painting tool. There is a great selection of virtual brushes built in to the basic Photoshop program. You can also download brush sets if other kinds of brushes better suit your needs.

The Eraser Tool has three variations: Eraser, Background Eraser, and Magic Eraser. When you use Eraser, it erases pixels completely, so it is important to have a locked layer when you use this tool, so that you don't accidentally lose parts of your photo. With the Background Eraser Tool, you can remove the background color of a photo or a layer. When you use the Magic Eraser Tool, you must set the tolerance first. Once you've done that, this tool erases all of the color within the set tolerance.

The Clone Stamp Tool is very similar to the Spot Healing Brush Tool. These two tools are used the same way, but the Clone Stamp tool doesn't blend the edges. These tools work very well together once you have mastered each of them.

The tools mentioned above are just some of the tools included in the basic Photoshop installation. There are other tools available and other features. However, learning how to use these tools is a good start for any Photoshop beginner. These tools are the ones most essential to basic photo manipulation. It is very important to learn how to use these tools properly before you start to edit your photos.

Photoshop offers many other tools, but learning these basic tools is enough to edit most photos in a way that looks professional.

To make editing faster and more efficient, knowledge of some keyboard shortcuts is essential. For every tool, Photoshop has assigned a keyboard shortcut. Using these shortcuts can save a lot of time. Learning keyboard shortcuts is important because it will allow you to work in Photoshop much faster.

Here are some of the essential shortcuts:

Move Tool – V

Rectangular Marquee Tool – **M**

Lasso Tool – **L**

Magic Wand Tool – **W**

Crop Tool – **C**

Eyedropper Tool – **I**

Spot Healing Brush Tool – **J**

Brush Tool – **B**

Clone Stamp Tool – **S**

History Brush Tool – **Y**

Eraser Tool – **E**

To use these shortcuts while on the Photoshop canvass, just press the corresponding keyboard letter for the tool you want to use. Remember to press only the letter corresponding to the shortcut you want to use.

The best way to find out how each tool works is to use it and use it often. You can try using different tools on the same image in order to learn which one of them is right for the thing you need to do. However, when you start your photo editing, it is important to first make a copy of the photo you are editing.

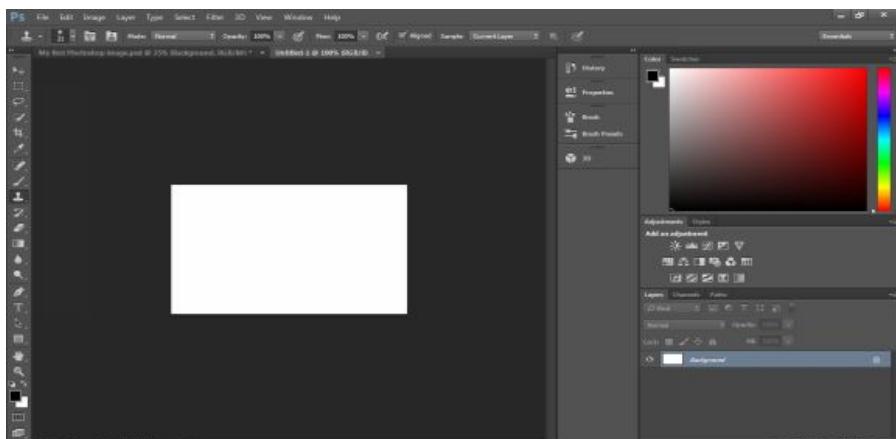
If you are trying the tools on a photo that is important to you, don't use your only version of that photo. Stock imagery or stock photo web sites are also a good source of photos to use for practice.

At this point, you might want to try out your new knowledge of the different keyboard shortcuts and open an image or photo to practice your skills.

In the next chapter, you will learn what Layers and Layer Masks are and why it is so important to use them. You will find out exactly what you can do with them and in what way they will make your job easier.

Chapter 4: An Explanation of Layers and Layer Masks

One very useful photo-editing technique, allowed by Photoshop, is the use of layers. Think of layers as different surfaces, one on top of the other. Using layers in Photoshop is very important because layers will allow you to change specific things on your photo without making changes to the surface of the original photo itself. Since you are using layers, you are manipulating and adding effects on the layer, not on the photo. This is very useful because you will not lose the original quality of the photo. Even if you make a mistake, you can just remove the layer that contains the error and start again. With every new layer, you can also add different effects separately, even change the opacity for any effect you choose.



When you open Photoshop, you first need to create a new document. You can do this by clicking on “file”, then on “new”. Next, you must select the size of your image. Once you create a new document, you will see your layers on the bottom right side of the screen. At first, you will have only one layer, the Background Layer. This layer is locked by default, so you cannot make any changes to this layer. If you want to make changes to the Background Layer, you will first need to unlock it. You can also lock any other layer in which you do not want to make changes.

When you create a new document, your Background Layer will be filled with white because Photoshop always creates blank new layers.

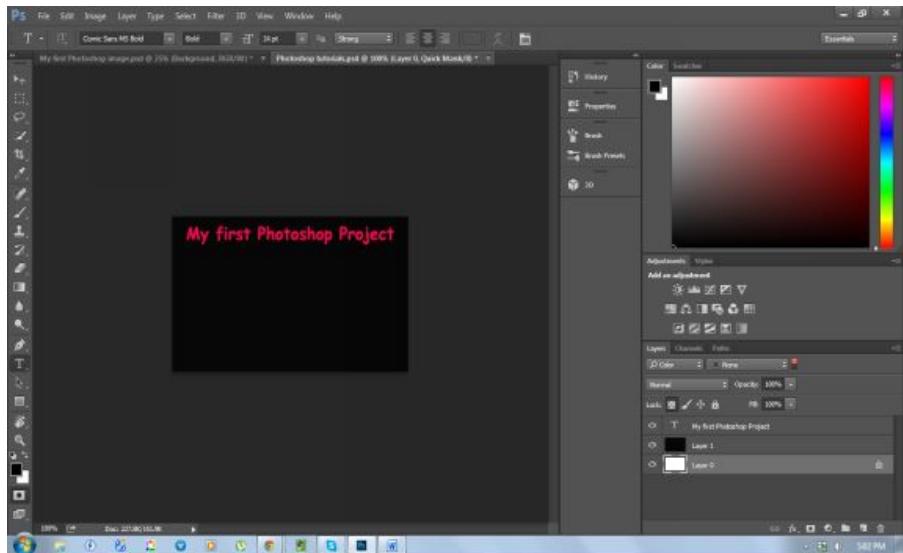
Next, you need to create a new layer. You will find this button at the bottom of the of the layers window. The new layer will also be blank and you will see no changes on your canvas. By default, the new layer will be named Layer 1, but you can rename it by simply double clicking on the layer name. Giving different names for each layer will

make it easier to keep track of the effects or changes you have done on each.

After creating the new layer, it is time to add some color to it. Select Layer 1 and set the foreground color. For your first attempt, choose black. Select the Paint Bucket Tool and fill the layer with black. When you look at your layers now, you should see the Background Layer, which should still be filled with white and Layer 1, which should be filled with black. Your canvas should also be black now, but these changes are only applied on the layer, so if you were to remove Layer 1 you would see only the background white layer. Try this yourself to get some experience with how layers work.

Next, we will learn how to add some text to the image. Once again, choose a foreground color, but this time, you will want to choose some brighter color; for example, red, so that it will stand out against the black background. Now, you can use the Horizontal Type Tool to write something. Just click on the icon corresponding to the Horizontal Type Tool or press “T” as a keyboard shortcut. There is no need to create a new layer now, since Photoshop will do this for you after you have created the text using the Horizontal Type Tool.

It will create a different type of layer, which will contain the text. After doing this, you will now be able to see your text on the black background.



A picture, consisting of a Background Layer, a color layer, and a text layer

It is better to practice the use of layers with colors in the beginning because it will give you a visual reminder of what layers are and what you can do with them. If you are working on a very complex project, you can create groups of layers. Because some projects may require

you to have more than 30 layers, grouping them will keep you from getting lost in your layers.

What Are Layer Masks and How Do You Use Them?

You have probably heard the term “layer masks” or “masking” in Photoshop, but you may not be sure what that is and how it is used. Many people do not use masks because they do not understand how they work. Once you get the hang of the basics in Photoshop, using layer masks should be very easy. For someone who is only beginning to use Photoshop for photo editing, knowing how to incorporate layer masks into a project can provide more options when manipulating or creating images.

We’ve established that knowing how to use layer masks is important, so the big question is, “what *are* layer masks?”

Layer masks control the transparency of a layer, nothing more. Transparency can also be controlled with the Opacity option, but there is a big difference between using the Opacity option and a layer mask for this. When you use the Opacity option to control the transparency level, you are affecting the transparency of the entire layer and, in some cases, this is enough. But, in cases when you need; for example, only the left side of an image to be transparent, you will need to use a layer mask. Layer masks allow you to set different transparency levels for different parts of the same image.

In the next chapter, you will find a number of basic Photoshop editing techniques for beginners. As you read the tutorial, it is a good idea for you to open the Photoshop application and follow the shown steps right away. Now, let us edit your first photos using Photoshop.

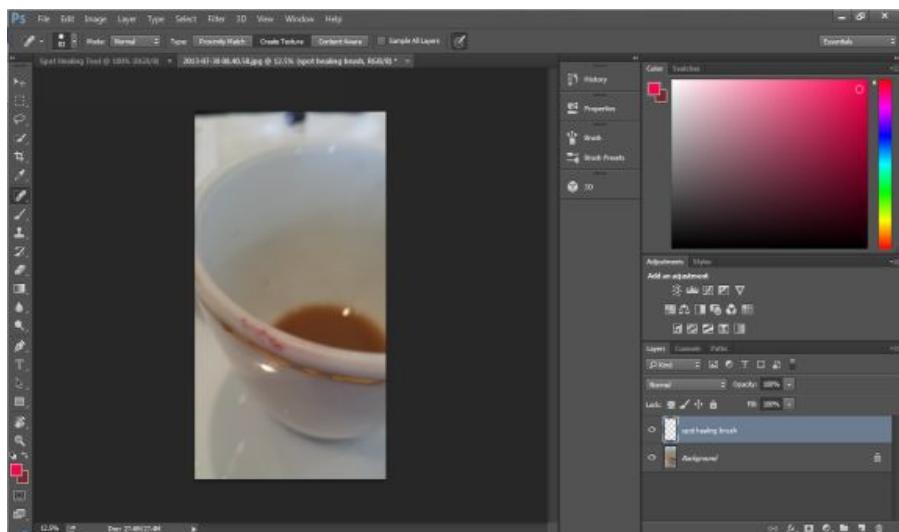
Chapter 5: Photoshop Techniques for Beginners

Now that you have been acquainted with the Photoshop application and its basic tools and features, it is time to learn some basic photo editing techniques you can use with it. I have put together some of the basic techniques every beginner who edits or creates images should know how to use in Photoshop. I present these techniques below. You can follow the discussion, as presented in this e-book, while you open Photoshop on your computer. You will feel like a professional photo editor in no time at all!

How to Remove Blemishes in Photoshop

Removing blemishes in Photoshop is something many people want to learn how to do. After all, everyone wants to look their best in photos. The best way to remove blemishes is to use the Spot Healing Brush. The first step is to open the photo in Photoshop. Then, just to be safe, create a new layer. We want to protect the original photo. It is a good idea to rename the new layer, so you can keep track of your work.

Now that you have opened the image you want to fix, select the Spot Healing Brush tool and choose the size of the brush you want to use. Professionals recommend that you use a brush that is slightly bigger than the size of the area you wish to fix. The Spot Healing Brush is amazingly simple to use; you only need to click on the area you wish to fix and the Spot Healing Brush will fix the chosen area on its own. This tool chooses the textures that are around the area you wish to fix and covers the problem area with those textures in an instant. In most cases, the results are very good, especially if the fix is done on small areas. The Spot Healing Brush works very well on small areas of the photo. However, remember that when you are removing blemishes, you should remove only features that are not on the subjects' face permanently, like acne, small cuts, and scars that will eventually heal, and similar things. If you alter the image so much as to remove a permanent mark like a mole or a freckle, then the image may not represent the real person anymore. In most cases, you should edit your photos in a way that, in the end, the person still looks realistic. Unless your goal is to dramatically alter an image, digital photo editing should only be used to make realistic enhancements.



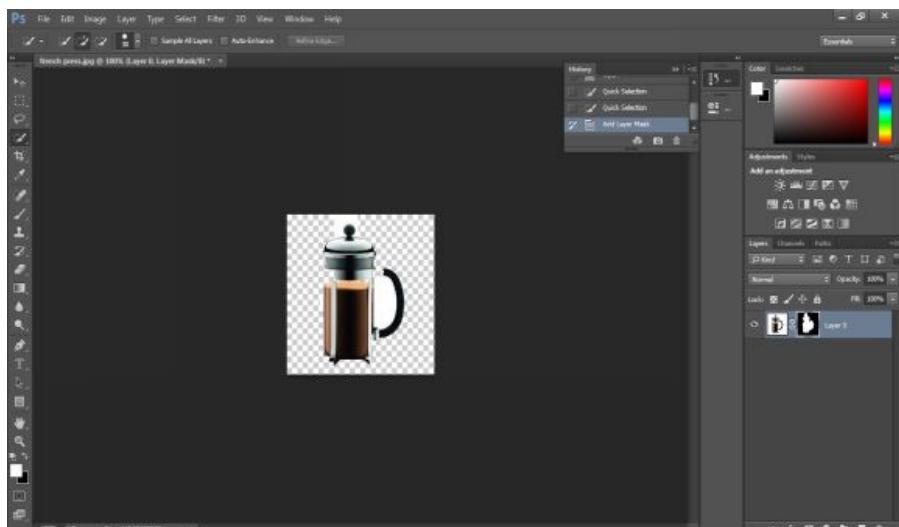
How to Remove a Background from a Photo

In some cases, removing a background from a photo can be very easy and can be done very fast. In other cases; for example, if your subject is an animal, which has a lot of hair, this task becomes more complicated and takes a lot more time.

The first step is to open the photo you need to edit in Photoshop. Next, you will need to make a selection by using one of the selection tools in Photoshop. You can make a selection either with the Lasso Tool, the Magic Wand Tool, or the Quick Selection Tool. The Lasso Tool is very accurate, but for beginners, it can be quite difficult to use. It is best to use the Quick Selection Tool if you are still getting the feel of the application. Choose the Quick Selection Tool from the Tool Bar.

Now that you have selected your tool, you will need to select the background you wish to remove.

Do that by clicking on part of the photo containing the background and dragging until you have selected all of the background you wish to remove. When you are making a selection, there is no need to be precise because you will need to refine the edges of the object later. After you have selected all the background, it is time to add a layer mask. Click on Add Layer Mask in the Layers menu. Now, your background should be gone and all you will see on your canvas is the object from the photo.



Using the quick selection tool and adding a layer mask. The background of the image was removed from the original photo.

Because your selection was not done precisely, it is time to refine the edges of the object. Look at your Layers panel, find the mask, and click on it. A box with settings should appear. Now, click on the masks' edge and choose Show Radius. You will see the Radius Slider. By moving this slider, you can make adjustments to your photo. This part will probably take some time, but it is good practice. You want the radius to remove all parts of the background that you have left behind.

There is no formula to tell when you are finished. You will have to go through a process of trial and error. When you are happy with the result you see, the process is finished.

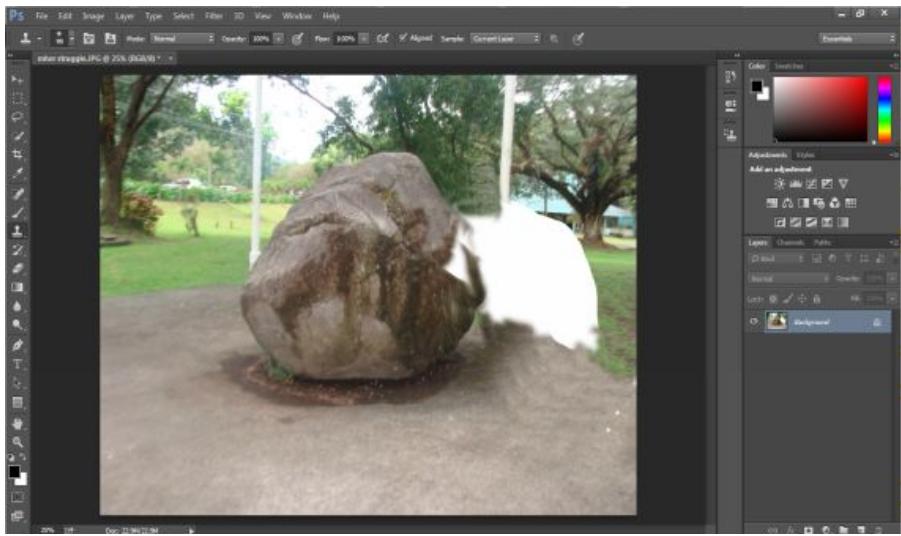
Now, unselect Show Radius. It is time to refine those edges. You will see the Refine Mask Preview. Move the slider and, once again, adjust until you are happy with the result you see. You will probably want to add the object that you removed to a new background. All you need to do is to open the desired background in Photoshop and just drag the object to the new background. Depending on the background you have chosen, you may need to change the size of the object. These processes can take as much as 15-20 minutes, depending on the complexity of the photo and the patience of the photo editor. The trick is to practice often and to not get frustrated when, at first, you do not succeed.

How to Remove a Person or an Object from a Photo

Often, it happens that when you take a photo, there is an object in the background that ruins the look of the photo. Sometimes, if you have taken a photo on the street or in another populated area, there is a person in the background whom you don't want in the photo. Even worse is the person who suddenly appears after you press the shutter. And; of course, there is the popular pastime of replacing one item or person in a photo with another for a comedic or horrific effect. This is actually one of the most common reasons many people want to learn photo editing: to remove or alter parts of a photo, either to get rid of an unwanted intrusion or to create a new work of art.

The first step when removing an object is, as always, to open the photo you want to edit on Photoshop. Then, use one of the tools to select the person or an object you wish to remove. You can use any selection tool you like to work with. The most precise is the Pen Tool, but this is a very complicated tool for a first timer to use, so it is better to use some other, simpler tool, like the Lasso Tool. When you are making a selection on the photo, you need to select an area that is slightly bigger than the object itself because you do not want to leave any trace of the removed object. Remember also, to select the object's shadow.

Once you are finished with your selection, move the cursor in the middle of the selected area. Now, press Alt + Shift on the keyboard and hold. Now, drag and move your selection somewhere where only the background is visible. By doing this, you are not moving the object. The only thing that will move is the selection marquee. Now, chose the Move tool and move the cursor in the middle of the selection marquee. Press again Alt + Shift and hold, drag the marquee selection over the object you are removing. You will need to match the edges and when you do that, release the keys on your keyboard. Instead of your object, you will now see only the background you have chosen. The result will not be perfect, the edges will not be soft, but there is still some work to be done. Now, select the Clone Stamp Tool and select a feathered brush. Press ALT and just click on a good area next to the thing you wish to fix. Next, release the ALT key and click on the precise thing you wish to fix. You can repeat this as many times as you need and you can always use the History panel if you make a mistake. And, that is how you remove a person or an object from a photo. It will take you between 20 and 30 minutes to do this.



Getting unwanted person off the photo and fixing the edges using the Lasso Selection tool and Clone Stamp Tool.

How to Create a Color-accented Photo in Photoshop

There are times when you want to highlight a certain area of the photo. You can do this by applying a color accent through Photoshop.

The first step to creating a color-accented photo is to choose a colored

photo and open it in Photoshop. You can edit the photo a little, removing blemishes or unwanted objects or crop the photo. Once you finish this, copy the Background Layer. Remember, it is a standard good practice to copy the original photo before doing any manipulation on it, so you do not lose the original image. The next step is to turn your photo from color into black and white. You can do this by simply clicking on Image, then Mode, then choosing Grayscale. Now, your photo will be black and white. Now choose the Eraser tool and start to erase the parts of the layer where you want to have color. When you are done, click on Layer, then on Flatten Image, and that's it. You have created a color-accented photo. For this, you will typically need between 5-10 minutes.



Color accented via Photoshop

How to Change Someone's Eye Color in Photoshop

Changing the color of someone's eyes in a photo is very easy; it takes about 10 minutes of your time, and it can be very fun. You have probably wondered how you would look with a different eye color. Now, you can play in Photoshop and find out in a very short amount of time. It takes little time, but you need to practice often for best results.



To get started, you will first need to find an eye, either your own or another person's. It is the easiest to change the color of blue or green eyes, so you probably want to start with one of those colors. Now, you will need to select only the iris of the eye. Select the Pen Tool and outline the iris. The Pen Tool is one of the more complicated tools to use, but it is also a very powerful tool when using Photoshop, so the sooner you get comfortable using it, the better. After selecting the iris, just right click on the iris and select Choose Selection, then click OK. Now, we need to make a duplicate of the eye. Press **Ctrl + J** on the keyboard, and then press **Ctrl + D** to deselect the marquee. Click on the Layer menu, then click on New Adjustment Layer, and then on Hue/Saturation. Now, a pop-up will show. Just click OK. You will now see the color sliders. Move them until the eye changes color to the one you want. While you do this, you will notice that the rest of the photo is changing color too; don't worry, this will be fixed later. When you are happy with the color, just press **Ctrl + E** to save the color. This will combine the two layers and the color will be applied only on the eye. The rest of the photo will remain unchanged. Now, take a good look at your photo and decide if there is anything else you would like to change.

How to Place an Image in the Text

The first step is to choose the photo, which we will be placing in the text, and open it in Photoshop. Next, we will need to make a copy of the Background Layer. This new layer will be named, by default, Layer 1, but you can rename it if you wish. The keyboard shortcut to copy the layer is **Ctrl + J**.

After doing this, you should see two layers. The first one is the Background Layer, and the second one is the Layer 1. What we need to do now is to create a new, blank layer between the Background Layer and Layer 1. By default, this layer will be named layer 2. After

doing this, you should see three layers in this order: Background, Layer 2, and then finally, Layer 1 on the Layers Tab.

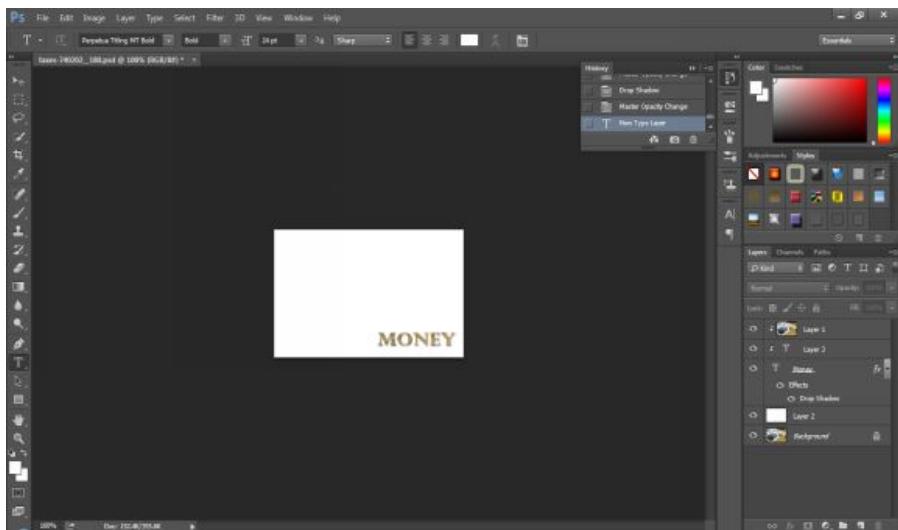
We will now fill the new, blank layer with white color. You can do that by clicking on “edit,” and then “fill”. A pop-up menu will appear. At the top of this menu, you will see the content menu. Choose white and click OK. Now, your layer will be filled with white color, but your canvas will remain unchanged.

Now is the time to add the text. Choose Layer 1. Once you start typing your text, Photoshop will automatically create a new Type Layer, so the text will be visible and above the photo. To add the text, you will need to use the Type Tool – the keyboard shortcut is the letter “T”. When you choose the Type Tool at the top of the screen, you will see the Options bar. From there, you can choose the font you wish. At this point, the size of the letters is not important. Now, you can choose white as your foreground color. This is not necessary because the color of the letters is not important, but it will help you to see your text better.

Once you are finished with all of these settings, click on the image to insert your text. After you place the text, look at the options menu, find the checkmark, and click on it. You will now see your image with white text. The next step is to resize and reposition your text. The easiest way to do this is to use the Free Transform Command. The keyboard shortcut is $Ctrl + T$. Once you activate Free Transform, handles will appear around your text.

Just pull the handles until you are happy with the size and the position of the text. When you finish, press the Enter key to accept the changes. The next thing we want to do is to move the Type Layer below. Just click on this layer to select it, and then drag it down just below Layer 1. Now, the order of the Layers should be Background Layer, Layer 2, Type Layer, and Layer 1. Now, you will need to select Layer 1. When you do this, the text will not be visible because the image is blocking it. Now, we need to create a new Clipping Mask. For this, you will need to click on the “Layers” menu and choose “Create Clipping Mask.” At this point, you will notice that the image is now in the text. However, the image will probably look flat and lifeless.

Adding a drop shadow will help with this and put some effects to the edited text. First, select the Type Layer. After that, click on “Layer Styles” and choose “Drop Shadow.” Now, the settings options for Drop Shadow will appear. You will not need to make many setting changes. First, lower the opacity to 60%, and then set the angle of the shadow to 120 degrees. When you finish with the settings, simply click “OK”, and that’s it. Your work is done! This is how you place an image inside of the text.



These are just some of the basic photo manipulation and editing techniques you can use with Photoshop. All of these tutorials have been made for people who are just starting to use Photoshop, so hopefully, they are very easy to follow. Anyone should be able to do these things in Photoshop right away, even if they have never used Photoshop before.

It is better to first get acquainted with the program by checking out the different tools and features available before you try to edit a photo. You will feel more comfortable and editing will be much easier once you have a feel of the program.

Although, it is one of the most powerful pieces of photo editing software in the market today, Photoshop is also quite expensive. So, if you are not going to use it often or you cannot maximize its features, you should probably at least consider other, less expensive photo editing software. If you have not decided yet if you want to own a copy of Photoshop, then Adobe offers a 30-day trial period. If you do not need Photoshop for professional purposes, there are alternatives. Today, there are a large number of photo editing applications that have some of the options and capabilities of Photoshop; most of them are also very easy to use and some of them are inexpensive or even free.

In the next chapter, we will explain one of the most important things you need to know about Photoshop and advise you on the most common mistakes made in Photoshop and how to avoid them.

Chapter 6: Some Important Things to Remember About Photoshop and How to Avoid Common Mistakes in Photoshop

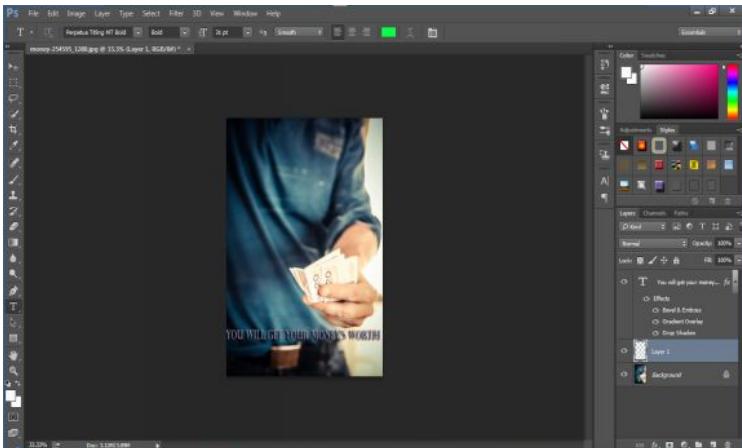
When you start to use Photoshop, there are a number of things you will want to remember. These things are very useful and they will save you a lot of time. They will also help you to use Photoshop more effectively.

- The first and most important thing is to learn where everything is located on the Photoshop application menu. This might take some time, but it will save you time later when you start your first photo editing project. The best thing is to just poke around and familiarize yourself with how the menus are organized. Before you start to use Photoshop, just open it and look around, try to select different tools, look at the menu. This is one of the best ways for people to learn where everything is located and, once you start to work in Photoshop, it will be much easier for you if you know where menu options are.
- A related task is to learn your tools and the corresponding keyboard shortcuts. Learning which tools are offered to you is essential. Through practice, you will discover which tools are the best ones for you. You can also create your own shortcuts.
- Do not forget to save your work regularly!
- Always use layers. When you use layers, you are not making changes to the original photo, which is very useful if you make a mistake; you can always delete a layer to set yourself back to before you made the error.
- Do not work with the same resolution every time. Default resolution in Photoshop is 72 dpi. This resolution is good for the web, but it is low if you need to print. Before you start your work, make sure to choose the right resolution for the type of project you are doing.
- These are just some of the basic things you should remember when you use Photoshop. This is very sophisticated and complex software, so do not be surprised if it takes you a lot of time to master it. However, with the basic techniques in this e-book, you should be good to go on your first few projects.

Photoshop offers so many options that sometimes, it is easy to get carried away and overuse them. Mistakes are often made in Photoshop by many professionals, as well as by amateurs. These mistakes can easily be avoided by following a few simple guidelines.

- Probably the most common type of work to make mistakes in is retouching photos: too much skin smoothing, over use of filters, and many other mistakes are common. Almost every photo we see today on the web or in a magazine has probably been edited in Photoshop and often, we do not need to be an expert to notice this. Models in photos often look like they are made of plastic. When it comes to the retouching of photos in Photoshop, you need to be very careful. When you are removing blemishes from a persons' skin, remove only the things that are not permanently on the skin. You should not remove moles or freckles. When you are smoothing the skin, it is good to smooth some of the wrinkles, but don't overdo it, especially if the person in the photo is older. If you remove all of their wrinkles, then the persons' skin will look to good to be true. You will know that you have done a good job when, in the end, you can't tell at first glance that the photo has been edited in Photoshop.
- Always take breaks when you work in Photoshop. This will help you to notice some of the mistakes you have made, allowing you to correct them before the photo is seen by large numbers of people.
- Never use De-saturate to turn your photos black and white. If you use this method, you will get a lifeless photo. There are other, more effective ways for turning a photo black and white.
- A very common mistake is the overuse of filters. Photoshop offers a great number of different filters, so it is very easy to get carried away. Filters are also very easy to use, but if you use them too much, your work will not look professional.
- When you are adding text or images, it is not a good idea to do so manually; you should always use guides and the grid, since they will help you to line up the objects or text perfectly. Many beginners don't use guides or the grid, probably because they are not sure how to use them.
- The biggest mistake is to use Photoshop for everything. Yes, Photoshop is very powerful software and there are

many things you can do with it. Unfortunately, there is better software for some specific photo editing needs, and using Photoshop may not offer the best solution.



Conclusion

Thank you again for downloading this two part box set!

I hope this book was able to help you to learn the basics of Photoshop and that you are now able to use Photoshop to create professional looking photos and images.

The next step upon successful completion of this book is to apply your newly acquired knowledge practically, so open Photoshop and start manipulating photos and creating art!

Finally, if you enjoyed this book, please take the time to share your thoughts and post a review on Amazon. It'd be greatly appreciated!

Thank you and good luck!

PHOTOSHOP

BOOK 2

***THE COMPLETE BEGINNERS GUIDE TO
MASTERING PHOTOSHOP IN 24
HOURS OR LESS! SECRETS OF COLOR
GRADING AND PHOTO
MANIPULATION!***

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Introduction

First and foremost, I want to thank you for downloading this two part box set.

In this book, you will learn how to use Photoshop and master it in a very short period of time. You will also learn about basic tools and how to use them. You will understand what layers and masks are, and why it is important to use them. In the end, we will give you some tutorials, and you will be able to put your newly acquired knowledge to the test right away.

Thanks again for downloading this book, I hope you enjoy it!

Chapter 1: What is Photoshop?

Before you enter the world of Photoshop, you will need to know what exactly Photoshop is and what you can do with it. To explain the second point first, there is not much you can't do with Photoshop. Its uses range from basic options like simply cropping an image or adjusting the colors on your photo, to more complex manipulation of photos and videos. If you want to make yourself or one of your friends look like a super hero or even an alien in a picture, you can do it with Photoshop. Photoshop was developed primarily as a professional tool, but it can also be very fun to use.

Photoshop is the most popular application for editing and manipulating images or videos. It can also be used for creating completely new images from scratch. Photoshop is used mainly by professionals, but today, almost everyone uses Photoshop or some similar application for editing their own photos. With the expansion of digital photography, it is very easy to create a great number of photos today. Photoshop gives you multiple options to edit them and make them perfect. In the past, you had to first take the photos, then wait for them to be developed. Only then could you see if your photos were good or not. Today, seeing if photos are good is not so complicated; you can instantly see the photo you have taken. You can easily upload the photos on your computer and edit them in any way you like.

Photoshop was created by two brothers, Thomas and John Knoll, in 1988. They presented Photoshop to Apple and Adobe executives. Both presentations went well and the first version of Photoshop was released on 19 February 1990 by Adobe for the Apple Macintosh only. Today, Photoshop is available for both Windows and Macintosh. What sets Photoshop apart from similar applications is that in Photoshop, not only can you edit, but you can also create images; you can even use multiple images to create 3D animations. Photoshop has many options that allow you to practically do anything. Photoshop can be very fun to use; all you need is a little creativity.

You must be wondering now what exactly can be done in Photoshop. With Photoshop, you can edit your own photos, you can create completely new images from scratch, you can generate 2D - 3D animations, and you can also edit text and videos. Also in Photoshop, you can alter the look of a person so drastically that, when you are finished, the person will be unrecognizable. Today, it is almost impossible to see an image that hasn't been processed or made in Photoshop.

Since it was first created, Photoshop has become a popular tool among

professionals and, in the past few years, among regular people too. Photoshop is used in many different fields such as photography, web design, forensics, architecture, astronomy, medicine, and many more. We are usually more familiar with the use of Photoshop in photography because that is what we see the most.

It is very possible that almost every image we have ever seen on the internet is either edited or even made from scratch in Photoshop and that all of the photos we see in magazines use Photoshop too.

Since the first version of Photoshop, many new versions have been introduced to the market and with every new version, newer options have been added. The first version of Photoshop was simply called the Photoshop 1.0. With each of the first several new versions, the number changed so we had Photoshop 2.0, 3.0, and so on up until Photoshop 7.0. After this version, adobe changed the marking of new versions to Photoshop CS, which stands for Creative Suite. The first version of Photoshop CS was released in 2003 and the last, CS7, was released in 2012. In 2013, Photoshop CC was released and in 2014, the most recent version, Photoshop CC 2014 came out. Photoshop has undergone many changes from the very first version up to the latest version. The very first version of Photoshop could fit on a floppy disc while for the latest version, you need a minimum of 2GB of free space on your hard drive. On top of the basic version of Photoshop, there is a large number of plug-ins you can install later, depending on your needs. Besides Photoshop, Adobe also publishes additional software, including Adobe Fireworks, Adobe Image Ready, and Adobe Bridge.

Chapter 2: Learn the Basics of Photoshop

When you start to learn Photoshop, the first step is to learn where everything is located and to learn some terminology used in Photoshop. There are many video tutorials about the basic use of Photoshop, but you may be confused while you watch these tutorials because you are not familiar with the terminology.

Before you begin to edit your photo, you should learn the most frequently used tools and what each one of them does. When you open Photoshop, you will see the “Tools” menu on the left side of the screen. The names of the tools may confuse you if you are new to Photoshop. The most commonly used tools are the “Move tool”, the “Magic Wand”, the “Eyedropper”, the “Marquee Tool”, the “Healing Brush”, the “Lasso Tool”, the “Pencil”, the “Paintbrush”, and the “Eraser”.

The Move tool is used for moving objects in your photo; you just click on the object you want to move and drag it anywhere on the photo. The Magic Wand tool enables you to select a specific area of the photo and have Photoshop automatically select the surrounding area, which is similar to the one you clicked on. The Marquee Tool enables you to select a part of the photo of a certain shape: a circle, an ellipse, or a rectangle of adjustable size. With the Eyedropper tool, you can take a sample of a specific color in the photo by clicking on the part of the photo where the wanted color is. These are just some of the basic tools you will need in the beginning. It is good to learn more about them before you start to use Photoshop as this will make your job much easier. As you probably already know, Photoshop is a very expensive application, but Adobe offers a 30-day free trial so you have the opportunity to see if Photoshop is a good match for you.

Chapter 3: What is Color Grading and How Do You Use It?

This particular technique is mainly used for films, but today, many people use it for photos too. When you see the same photo before color grading and after color grading, you will certainly see the difference. Color grading makes it possible to adjust colors and shadows of the photo. With these simple adjustments, you are able to create a certain mood you wish to present. You have probably noticed that most of the movies in the last few years look different: the actors seem to pop out more in the scenes. This is all because of color grading. The key to successful color grading is to use complementary colors; what exactly that means will be explained in detail later on. The selection of colors depend on the feel you want to present on a specific photo; if you want your photo to have a romantic feel to it, you will use warmer tones and if your photo is more action oriented, you will use completely different colors. If you are a beginner, there are some presets for color grading where the colors have already been selected; all you need to do is apply them on your photo. This makes it much easier for beginners, but with time, you will learn more about color grading and you will be able to create your own color selection.

The term “color grading” is often confused with the term “color correction,” but these are two completely different processes. Color correction is used for parts of an image which don’t have the color that they should. Sometimes, white objects don’t look white in photos or skin looks unnatural; it all depends on the lighting. In cases like these, color adjustment is used. Color grading is not used to fix the color of an object, it is used to make a person or an object in a photo stand out by making small adjustments to the colors.

Color grading became very popular in the last few years; it is now not only being used for movies, but also for photos. By using color grading, a person or an object in the photo stands out against the background so that the viewers’ attention is completely on the object that you want viewers to notice. This kind of photo is easy on the eye, which is the main reason color grading is used so often.

You have probably seen a magazine cover or a movie poster on which color grading was used; Photoshop lets you easily make your own photos look just as pleasant and eye-catching.

The key to successful color grading is to use complementary colors. Complementary colors are the opposite colors on the color wheel. For example, red and green are complementary colors. When color grading a person, you will want to keep the blues and the greens in

the shadows and oranges in the highlights. Orange is used for highlighting the skin tone and because you use complementary colors in the shadows, the person on your photo will stand out against the background.

Before you start with color grading, you should do some preparation. You should crop the photo and do whatever basic retouching of the photo is needed. Once this is done, you are ready for color grading.

Color grading can be done in a couple of different ways in Photoshop. One of the easiest ways is to use the “Curves adjustment panel”. All you need to do is open it. By default, it is set to RGB channel. This means that by simply moving the line that is located in the middle of the panel, you are adjusting the red, green, and blue color channel at the same time. Basically, the RGB channel controls the lightness of the photo. If you pull up the curve, you will make it brighter and if you pull it down, the photo will become darker. You can change this setting and you can also work with each color channel separately. The color choice is completely up to you. It is usually best to keep your photo looking realistic in the end, but you can make it look any way you like. When you make the adjustments and you are happy with the result, it is a good idea to take a short break and, after a few minutes, look at the photo again. It is possible that you will see some things you didn't before or you might have some different ideas when you come back to the picture. After your break, you can make any final adjustments.

When you start with color grading, it will be easier for you to use the presets; it is not necessary, but it will help you. When it comes to choosing the right colors, there is not a right or wrong choice – you simply choose the color adjustments that you think will go best with the specific photo and apply them. This is one of the reasons color grading became so popular: there are no strict rules of how you should do it.

If you want to create a bold and dramatic image, the type of image that is mostly seen in action movies, you will need to add more green and blue colors. These colors will give the photo the desired bold and dramatic look. On the other hand, if you want to create a more romantic and warm feel, you will need to add more of the red and yellow. Again, there are no strict rules; you can just play in Photoshop until you get the result you like the best.

Chapter 4: How to Create a Dramatic Image Using Color Grading

Here is a suggestion of how to apply color grading to your photo in four easy steps

Step 1

The first step is to De-saturate the photo until it looks almost black and white, then create a new Hue/Saturation Adjustment Layer and drag the “Saturation” slide to the left side (to approximately -40). Then, look at the result. If you don’t like the result, you can change the Saturation so it fits your photo better. This kind of saturation will add the desired drama to your photo.

Step 2

The next step is to create the “Curves Adjustment Layer”. It is important to be very subtle when making these adjustments. You will be making adjustments in the Red, Blue, and Green channels. Just pull down the mid-tones; you will know you are done when your photo gets more of a green and blue tinted look.

Step 3

The final step is to bring back the color to the highlights. You will do this by creating a new “Levels Adjustment Layer”. You need to adjust the Blue channel. To do this, there is a white and a black handle. When you move the black handle to the right, you will bring blue to the shadows. Highlights need more red and you will achieve this by moving the white handle to the left. These are some very fine adjustments and the end result needs to be very subtle, still bringing the focus to the person in the photo, instead of the background.

How to Create a Warm, Romantic Image by Using Color Grading

Warm images usually require applying less dramatic effects. Here is how you can use color grading to create a warm and romantic image. Basically, we will use the same steps as we did above, but we will apply different adjustments.

Step 1

Create the new Hue/Saturation Adjustment Layer. In this case, the Saturation will be very different from when we created cold and dramatic images. Set the Saturation at -15; this will add a little drama to the photo, but nothing too drastic.

Step 2

Next is the Curves Adjustment Layer. You will need to pull up the Red in the highlights and then go to the Green channel. Now, we want to create a contrast; pull up the highlights and pull down the shadows and then, do the same with the Blue channel.

Step 3

Now create the Levels Adjustment Layer. Go to the Blue channel and move the black slider to the right to bring out the blue in the shadows and then use the white slider, moving it to the left in order to bring more red to the highlights.

Step 4

Now, we want to add some more warmth to the photo. Do this by creating a “Solid Color Fill” and choose a golden color, similar to the color of the sunlight. Now, you need to change the blending; choose the “Hard Light Mode” and set the opacity to 8%. In the end, you will get a warm and natural look to your photo.

This is only a suggestion for creating two completely different images by using very simple steps. You can see how just a small difference in adjustments can create a very different end result. You could even try to apply these different adjustments to the same photo; that is the best way to understand how simple adjustments can create different effects and represent different moods. It all depends on the mood you wish to present with your photo.

Chapter 5: Photo Manipulation

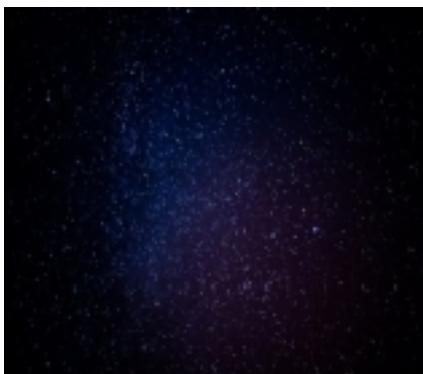
It is impossible to make a perfect photo. Even the best photographers in the world cannot do it; there is always a detail that you wish you could remove or change. This is when Photo Manipulation comes in handy. With the help of photo manipulation, we can change certain details in a photo. These changes can be subtle like just adjusting the colors or they can be very dramatic and change the complete photo. Photo manipulation is not new and it is not only connected to Photoshop. Photo manipulation can be traced back to the 1860's and it has been used ever since for many different purposes. In the beginning, photo manipulation had to be done manually, but today, it is much more easily done thanks to Photoshop. With Photoshop, anyone can manipulate photos in any way they want. Here are some examples that will give you a better idea of what is considered photo manipulation.

How to Add Fireworks to a Photo

Here is one example of how to add fireworks to a photo by using photo manipulation. For this, you will need to combine three different photos. The first one is a photo of the Hungarian parliament building, the second is a photo of stars, and the third is a photo of fireworks. Doing this should take approximately 20 minutes.



<http://pixabay.com/en/hungarian-parliament-night-budapest-335130/>



<http://pixabay.com/en/milky-way-star-night-starry-sky-472971/>



<http://pixabay.com/en/fireworks-light-night-beautiful-69362/>

When you combine these photos, the end result should be similar to this photo:



<http://www.photoshopstar.com/photo-effects/add-fireworks-to-a-photo-in-photoshop/>

First, create a new document. If you are using the suggested photos, the size should be 1715px. X 1383px. Now, you need to create a new “Layer” and set the background color to black. We are going to add the stars first. Open the photo of the stars, select the whole image, and then just paste it into your document. You need to make the stars

smaller, which you can do by using the keyboard shortcut Ctrl + T and lower the opacity of this layer to 32%. Next, you need to add the fireworks to the photo. Select the fireworks and copy and paste them into your document. Now, you need to resize them and make them smaller. Because the fireworks have their own background, you need to remove it. You can do this by simply changing the “Blending” mode of the fireworks layer; change it to “Screen” and that will remove the background and leave only the fireworks. Finally, you will add the building; select it and copy it into a separate layer. Again, the photo has its own background and you need to remove it. The best way to do this is to add a layer mask to this layer. First, click “Layer”, then go to “Layer Mask” and set it to “Reveal All”. Now, choose “Select”, then “Color Range”. Click on the sky anywhere you want to take the sample of the color. Click again on the layer mask and press Ctrl + I on your keyboard. After this, only the building will be visible without the original background. Because there is water in front of the building, you can add the reflection of the fireworks. Create a new layer for reflection and then open the fireworks layer again and duplicate it. The next step is to transform this layer and resize the fireworks so they fit into the photo in the right way. When this is done, you can add some final adjustments. Change the blending mode of this layer to Screen and lower opacity to 27%. This will give the photo a more realistic look. That's it. You have successfully added fireworks to a photo in 20 minutes or less.

How to Combine Two Animals in Photoshop and Create a Surreal Image

Here is a great example of how to be creative and generate something completely new. We will combine a frog and a crocodile to create an animal that doesn't exist. Before you begin, if you are not using the suggested photos, you will need to find the photos you want to use. You should choose animals of a similar color, so the final result will look realistic. Also, pay attention to the position of the animals in the photos and decide if it is possible to combine them.

We will use these photos:



<http://www.freeimages.com/photo/1205714>



The first step is to open the photo of the frog in Photoshop; the image size should be 1024px. X 768px. This is our first Layer. You should now open the photo of the crocodile in Photoshop separately. We will be using only the head; use your favorite tool to select the crocodiles' head and try to do it precisely. Remove any background left in the selected area. Now, you can copy and paste the head onto the new layer, above the frog layer. You will need to resize the crocodiles' head. For this, use the "Transform tool". Choose the right size for the head so that it will fit the frogs' body and place it on the spot where you think it fits the best. These two animals still look very different; you will need to make them look more alike. The "Clone Stamp Tool" is a good choice for this: it is better to use a soft brush to try to join the head to the frogs' neck. With this, you can experiment; create a new layer in which you will try to join the crocodiles' head with frogs' neck and apply the changes you make only to the new Layer. If you do it wrong, you can always delete this layer and start again. Once you finish with this, look at the photo again and search for any parts you might want to remove, possibly the crocodiles' skin that is covering the frogs' eyes or some similar details. Use the "Eraser Tool" to remove them.

Now is the time for some coloring because the crocodile is much darker than the frog. Select only the crocodiles' head; you can do this by pressing "Ctrl" on the keyboard and clicking on the wanted layer. Open the "Layers" tab and click "Create New Fill" or "Adjustment Layer". Now, choose the "Color Balance" option, and then "Tone Balance". Set the color levels to -13, 0, and -98. Look at the Red color channel and move the slider slightly to the left. Leave the Green channel slider in the middle and on the Blue color channel, move the slider all the way to the left. With this, we have created a mask over the entire head; you will notice that even the crocodiles' teeth and tongue are selected and they do not need a color change. Use the Eraser tool again to remove the parts of the mask in the area whose color you wish to preserve; in this case, the teeth and the tongue. All you need to do now is make the color of the edges of the crocodiles' head lighter so that it matches the color of the frog and they look naturally connected. For this, you can use the "Dodge Tool" or any other tool you prefer. All that is left to do now is to add a shadow underneath the head.

Open up the layer with only the photo of the frog and use the "Burn Tool" to replicate the original shadow of the frogs' head.

Your end result should be similar to the photo below.



<http://design.tutsplus.com/tutorials/crocodile-and-frog-photoshop--psd-22326>

There are a few things to which you need to pay special attention so your photo manipulation will be successful. You need to choose the right size of the objects; for example, you cannot make a cat look bigger than a tree if the point is to make a realistic photo. Shadows are also very important in making the photo look real, so you should add them to the objects on photos. If you need to combine more photos to get the one you have imagined, you should take some time to choose the right photos. Photo manipulation offers you the chance to be very creative; you can create anything you can think of.

Chapter 6: What Every Beginner Should Know how to do in Photoshop

There are a few things that every beginner should know how to do in Photoshop; these are Photoshop techniques most often used by amateurs. Most people want to know how to remove blemishes in Photoshop, how to make skin look better, how to remove unwanted parts of the photo, how to change the background on the photo, and how to apply virtual makeup. To do these things is not hard; all you need is to get acquainted with the basic tools and learn how to use them. Here are some of the easiest ways to do some of these things in Photoshop.

Let's say you have a photo that you want to use for your resume. It is not a perfect photo; maybe you even had a bad hair day. You can make all of the wanted adjustments very easily in just a few minutes, making your photo look 10 times better. First, you will need to select the photo you want to adjust and open it in Photoshop, then look at it carefully and decide what you want to change. You will probably want to remove some blemishes or some wrinkles or even some stray hair; the "Spot Healing" brush is a good choice for this. You will find the Spot Healing icon in the tool panel on the left side of the screen. Click on it and a circle should appear; this is your spot healing brush. You can change the size of the brush, depending on the size of the area you want to remove, and you can adjust the hardness of the brush you are using. You should remove only things that are not permanently on the face like blemishes or scars that will eventually heal. You generally shouldn't remove permanent things like moles or freckles. Now, move the brush over the area that you wish to remove and simply click on it. If you want to remove a wrinkle that is bigger than your brush, just click and hold while you move the brush across the wrinkle. This is one of the easiest ways to remove blemishes and as you will find out, it can be done in just a few minutes.

The next thing that most people want to learn how to do is remove a person or an object from a photo. For this, you will need to choose the right selection tool. There are many selection tools in Photoshop, including the "Lasso Tool", the "Marquee Tool", and the "Quick Selection Tool". The easiest way to remove a person or an object from a photo is to use the Quick Selection tool.

This tool enables you, as the name says; to make a quick selection of the object you want to remove. Besides the object, you should also select the objects' shadow to make sure that it looks like the object

was never in the photo. Your selection should be bigger than the object you want to remove. You can do this by clicking on “Select”; a drop down menu will show from which you should chose “Modify” and then click “Expand”. You can choose the exact number of pixels you wish to expand your selection by; you will probably have to guess if you are doing this for the first time. When you’ve made the selection, you will need to click on “Edit”, then click on “Fill” and then choose “Content Aware Fill” and simply click “Ok”. Photoshop will then remove the selected object from the photo and use the surrounding pixels to fill in the blank where the object used to be.

After doing this, some of the pixels of the removed object may remain. To remove them, you can use the spot healing brush. So again, in a matter of minutes, you will have a completely new photo.

If you want to change a color of an object in your photo, you can do it by using the “Color Replacement brush”. Using this tool, you can simply choose the color and then paint over the already existing color. This is the easiest way to change the color of an object in Photoshop. This tool is located in the “Tool” menu; you can also adjust the size of the brush, depending on the size of the object of which you want to change the color.

No matter what kind of changes you wish to make to the photo, you should always try to make the end result look natural. For example, if you are removing wrinkles from someone’s face, you do not want to remove every single wrinkle; you should leave some in order to make the person look more natural and realistic instead of doll-like. Of course, this depends on the effect you wish to achieve.

Photoshop offers many possibilities for editing and altering your photos; these are just some of the things that many people would like to know how to do. For an amateur, this is probably enough, but if you are a professional who is new to Photoshop, while these basics will certainly help you to get better acquainted with how Photoshop works, later on, you will notice that there are many more things you can learn to do in Photoshop. Because this is a very sophisticated and complex program, it takes time to master it completely.

With time, you will learn more about the options that Photoshop offers and you will find out that there is more than one way to do most things with it. You will also start to use more complex options and they will enable you to do more precise work.

Chapter 7: Mistakes Often Made in Photoshop

Mistakes are often made in Photoshop by professionals and by amateurs. Photoshop offers so many options and it is very easy to get carried away when it comes to editing photos. This is fine if you want to have some fun with Photoshop, but if you want to do serious photographic manipulation work, you will need to tone it down a little.

People overuse Photoshop in general. Yes, Photoshop has many options and there is not much you cannot do in Photoshop, but you must ask yourself if it is the best choice for the type of work you need to do. For example, if you need to create a logo, Photoshop is not the best option because a logo made in Photoshop will not have good clarity. So, you should find the right solution for the work you need to do and not just assume that Photoshop is the right choice.

The second thing that is used too much is the filters in Photoshop. Filters are very easy and fun to use and there are a lot of them, but if you use them too much, you will not look like a professional. It is best to use the filters in moderation.

If you want to use Photoshop in the right way, you must learn shortcuts. Using shortcuts will save you time and if you use Photoshop regularly, learning shortcuts will make your job much easier.

It is also very important to use layers. When you use layers, the original photo is intact. You are adding the changes through the layers and if you make a mistake, it is very easy to remove one layer instead of starting your work from scratch again.

Another very common mistake made in Photoshop is too much skin smoothing. This mistake is not only made by amateurs; many respected professionals make this mistake. You have probably seen a couple of magazine covers on which a celebrity or a model looks like they are made of plastic; nobody wants to look like a plastic doll. You should not remove all of the wrinkles from a persons' face; you can improve a photo by removing some wrinkles, but removing all of the wrinkles looks artificial, especially if the person on the photo is older.

You should never remove shadows under the eyes. Eyes are the most important part of the face, so anytime you apply any changes to the eyes, you are running the risk of making the person look completely unreal. If you remove shadows under the eyes, they will lose their depth and they will look flat and lifeless.

These are some of the most common mistakes made in Photoshop by

both professionals and amateurs. Many times, mistakes are noticed too late; after the incorrectly altered picture is already published, so you will need to be very careful when you work in Photoshop.

Besides Photoshop, there are many other applications that have some similar features. They are usually less complex and some of them are even free, but the final result is typically not as good as it would be if you used Photoshop. After using some other applications, it is obvious at first glance that the photo has been edited. These applications are perfectly fine to use if you want to create a funny photo for your friends, but not for serious work purposes. If you were to ask any professional if Photoshop is the best software for editing or manipulating photos, they would nearly all agree that it is. In other words, there is no better choice than Photoshop for professional-looking photographic manipulation.

Chapter 8: How to get a Cinematic Look on your Still Images by Color Grading

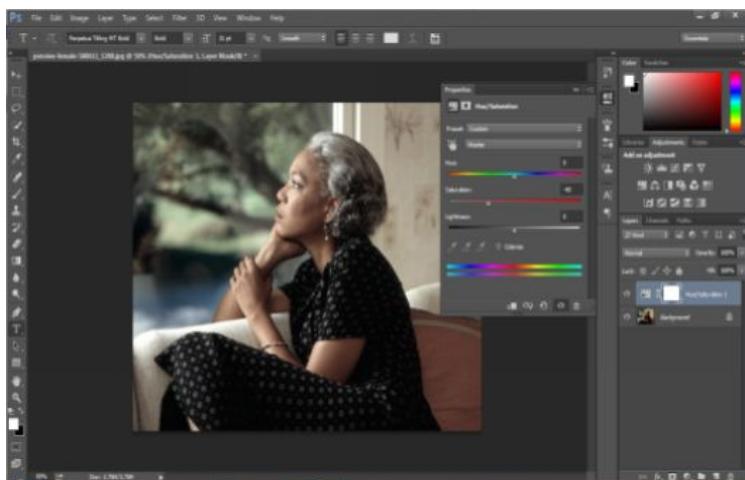
Almost every photographer faces the challenge of creating the perfect shot under given circumstances. Often times, cameras are not able to produce that elusive picture where subjects pop and stand out from the crowd or from a background. Unfortunately, no amount of natural light manipulation or background preparation can help you get the results you want to see on your photos in that regard. What can help you highlight your subjects and get photographs that make you proud is the knowledge of color grading, using Photoshop. The general impression of images bursting with life and color is usually associated with films. This ‘cinematic’ look is achieved with the help of color grading in video editing. Recently, with the growing trend for digital image processing and manipulation, professional photographers are starting to apply the same process to still images too. Some call this process “creative color correction”, but remember, color correction in Photoshop is very different from color grading.

Just a quick review: color correction is a process where you want to check the colors of your image and adjust them so that they are as close to the “real world” color as possible. You can also use color correction to change the color of the image and/or its background entirely for creative shot effects. Generally speaking, color grading is used to manipulate the color of your image to achieve a certain “look” or “mood” or to highlight the subject of your photograph.

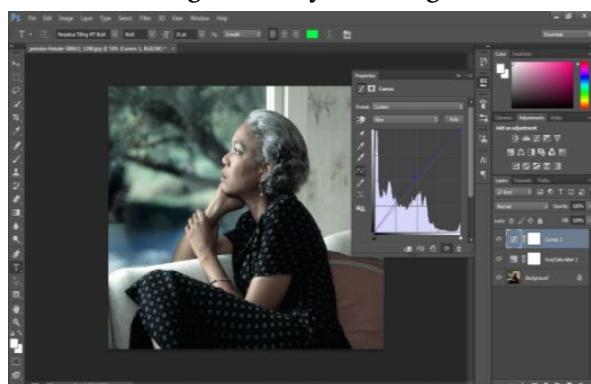
As a beginner or an amateur photo manipulation enthusiast, you too can learn this very simple technique and start applying it to your still images. Learning how to do color grading in Photoshop will enhance the look of your photos and take them to a whole new level of reality simulation.

Here are the steps for achieving a cold and very dramatic look in your photographs:

- Open the photo you wish to edit then create a Hue/Saturation Adjustment Layer. You will be able to do this by clicking the Hue/Saturation icon under the Adjustment tab on the right side of your Photoshop Screen/canvas. After opening the Hue/Saturation panel, look for the Saturation slide and drag the slide to the left at about -40; almost halfway to black and white. You will de-saturate the image to create a dramatic look.

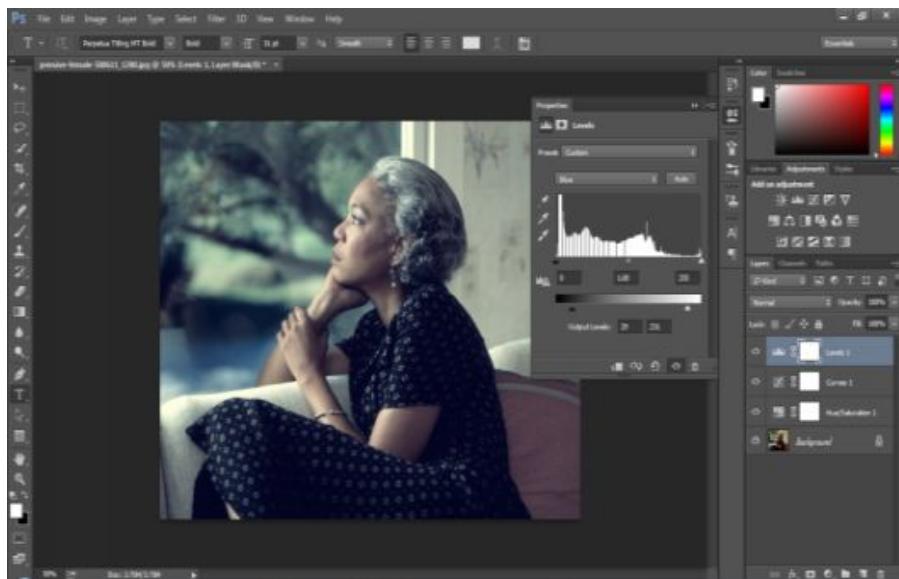


The next step after saturation is to create a moody, almost bluish/greenish tinted photo. This sets the tone of your image. Here, you will use a Curves Adjustment Layer. Using the Curves adjustment is a little tricky, but with practice, your photos will be more “alive” or dramatic. Click on the Curves tab and check the Red, Blue, and Green Channels. Notice the curve on the panel. Click on the midtones and drag it down. Experiment with adjusting the colors by dragging the curves up and down, and from left to right. For a cold, dramatic look, you will want more blue/green on your image.



- The next step is to manipulate the shadows and lights on the image. We want more blue in the shadows and more warmth in the highlights. On the Adjustments Tab, look for the Levels Adjustment icon and click it. Notice the two sliders at the bottom of the panel. Click and drag the left slider toward the right. This will give the shadows a slightly bluish color. After that, click and drag the right slider toward the left. This will adjust the warmth in the

highlights.



There you have it; a more dramatic, cold look on your photos.

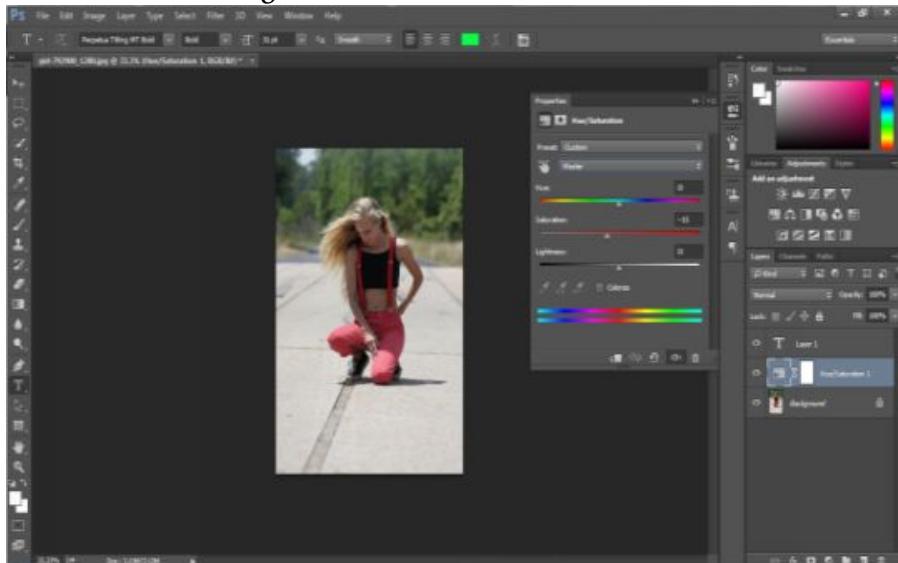


Without Color Grading

With Color Grading

To achieve a look that is warm and earthy:

- Open the photo you wish to edit, and then create a Hue/Saturation Adjustment Layer. For an earthy tone, you will want to add some drama to your photo by saturating the colors a little bit. You will be able to do this by clicking the Hue/Saturation icon under the Adjustment tab on the right side of your Photoshop Screen/canvas. After opening the Hue/Saturation panel, look for the Saturation slide and drag the slide to left at about -15.

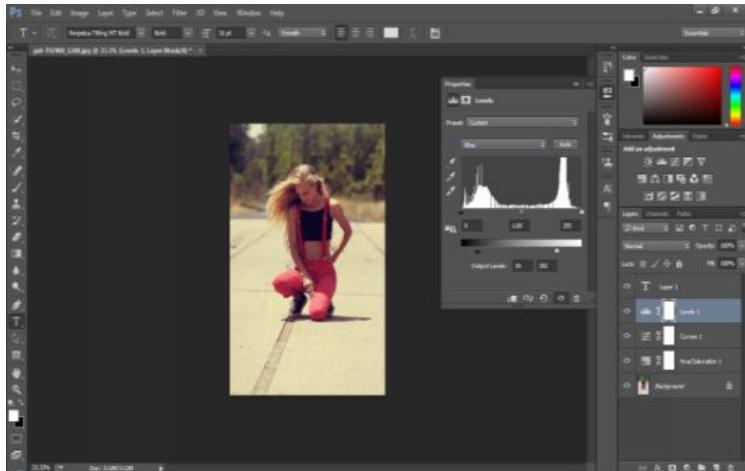


- Now, create a Curves Adjustment Layer. This step will allow you to manipulate the color channels to get the feeling of warmth on the photo. On the curves adjustment layer, click on the curves, and then pull up the highlights on the red channel. Next, go to the green channel on the drop down menu. Click and drag the curves up on the highlights, and drag the curves down on the shadows, to

create contrast. After that, go to the blue channel and do a small S-curve, just like you did on the green channel.



- Pull the highlights up and drag the shadows down. Now, click the Levels Adjustment Layer. After opening the menu, look for the blue channel on the drop down menu and drag the left slider at the bottom, toward the right just a bit, to bring some blue into the shadows. Then, drag the right slider toward the left to add more warmth to the highlights. Again, remember that there is no exact number you should be aiming for when you drag the sliders, so trust your creative instinct and check the “feel” of the photo.



- You can also add milky white warmth by adding a gold/brown solid fill color, then changing the blending mode to hard light, and bringing the opacity of the image to about 8%.

There you have it; an earthier, warm toned image bursting with life.





Without Color Grading

With Color Grading

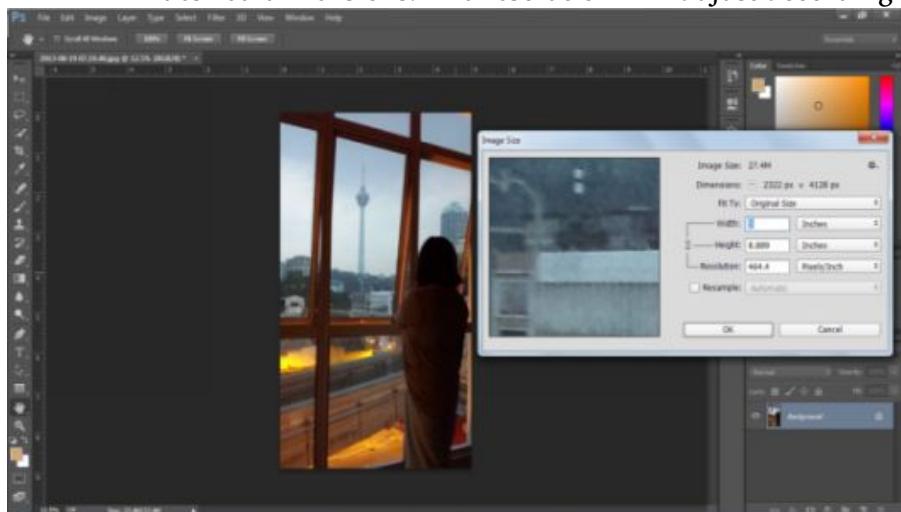
Simple Photo manipulation techniques every photo editor should know

Hurray! Now you know how to do basic color grading. However, every photo editor and graphics designer should learn some additional photo manipulation techniques. These basic techniques will get you started and enhance your images before you learn more advanced photo editing methods.

How to resize your photos without losing the quality

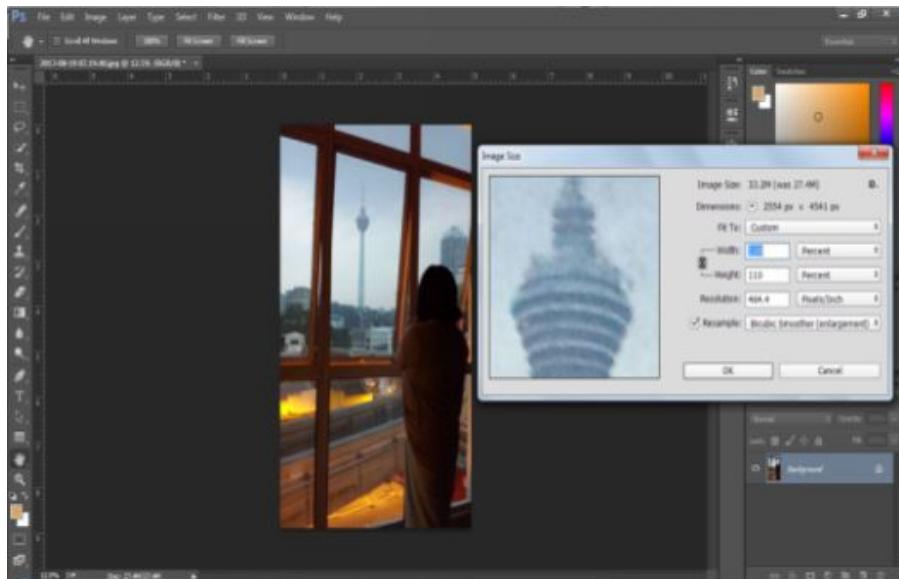
There are times when the image you want to use for your project has a large dimension and you need to resize it in order to be able to use it. Unfortunately, digital photos with large dimensions have low resolutions. When you increase or decrease the size of an image, then print it, the resulting image might be pixilated. Follow these simple steps to resize your digital images without losing the quality.

- On the main menu, click on open, and choose the image you want to edit.
- When you have the image, click on View, and from the drop down menu, choose Rulers to show the ruler on the canvas. This will help you determine the dimension of your image.
- While still on the main menu, click on Image, and then image size. A dialog box should appear. Look for the Resample image box and tick it off. After that, type your desired dimensions. The resolution will adjust accordingly.



To enlarge a photo without losing quality; such as, if you want a large poster size from your digital image, follow these simple steps:

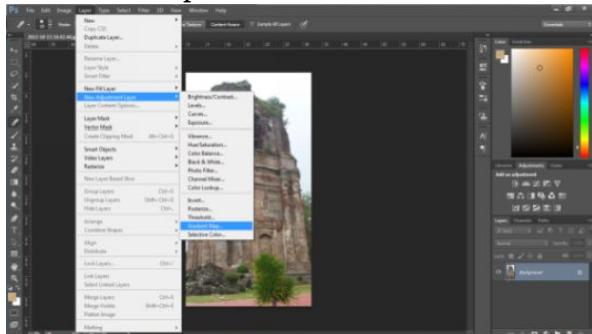
- Open the image you wish to edit (using the same steps mentioned before).
- From the main menu, click Image, then from the drop down menu, chose Image Size.
- When the Dialog box appears, check that the Resample Image box is ticked on. Choose Bi-cubic Smoother from the dropdown menu.
- Check the document size menu and make sure that the measurements are in Percent. Under width, try typing 110. This will make the width of your image increase by 10 percent.
- You can experiment with different percentages until you are satisfied with the size of your image.



Getting a “Vintage” or “Old School” effect with your photos

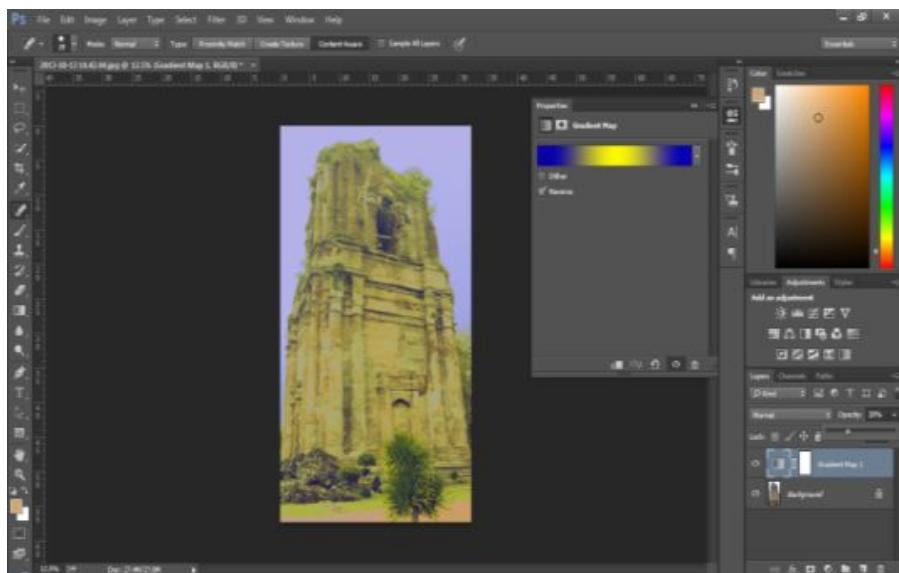
Retro images are highly popular today, so the next photo manipulation tutorial will give you steps on how to alter your images to have that vintage look.

- Open the image or photo you wish to manipulate, using the steps we mentioned before.

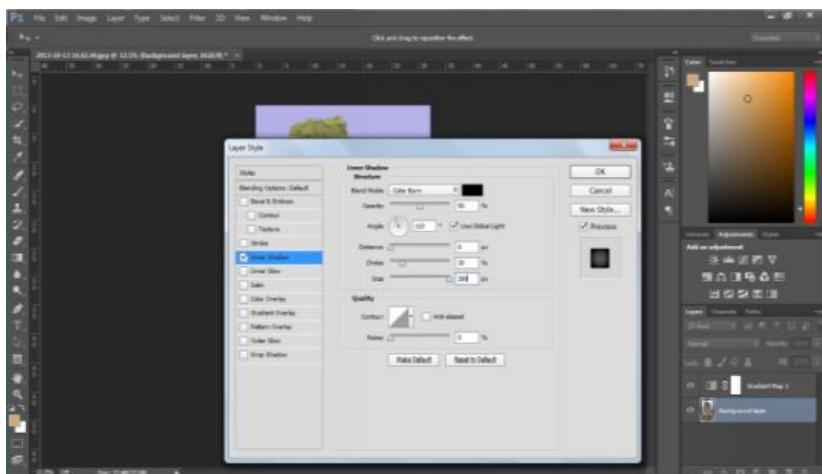


Then, edit the photo using a gradient map. You can do this by going to Layer, then New Adjustment Layer, then Gradient Map. Check on the properties and make sure that you check the.

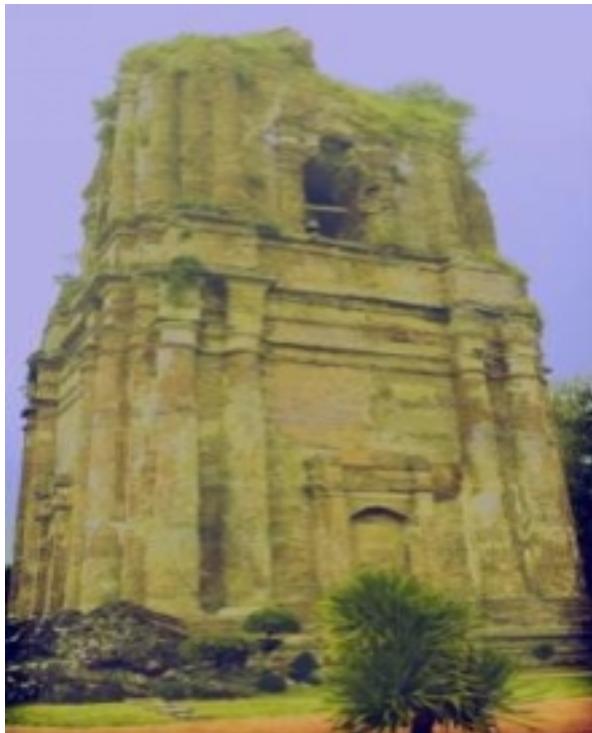
- Reverse option box. Choose the (blue, yellow, blue) gradient presets found on the drop down menu.
- After choosing the (blue, yellow, blue) gradient preset, reduce the opacity to around 30 percent.



After reducing the opacity, add an Inner Shadow layer to your image. This will enhance the image even better. Go to the Layers panel again, and double click on the background layer, then click ok. From the background layer, chose Layer, then Layer Style, and then chose Inner Shadow. On the drop down box, edit the inner shadow preset. Choose Color burn under blend mode and reduce the opacity to 50 percent. Type 113 on the Angle box and click Use Global Light. After that, check distance, and see to it that it is set to Zero, Choke is set to 20, and Size is set to 250.

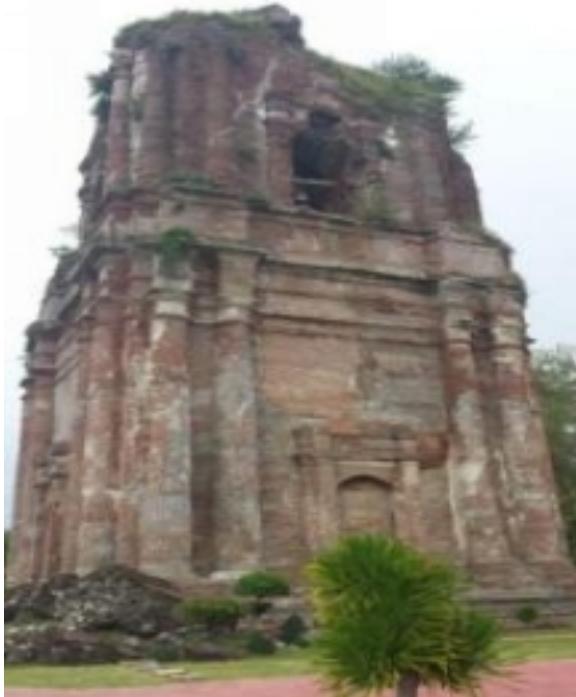


- Add a gradient overlay style; the steps are the same as those listed above, except that you will need to choose Gradient Overlay. On the pop up dialog box, check that the blend mode is set to overlay, opacity is set to 21 percent, style set to linear, and angle is set to 90 percent.
- After doing the gradient overlay, your image should look like this:



With photo manipulation

- You can experiment with other layer styles or gradient styles until you get the image that you want.



Original Photo

Conclusion

Thank you again for downloading this box set!

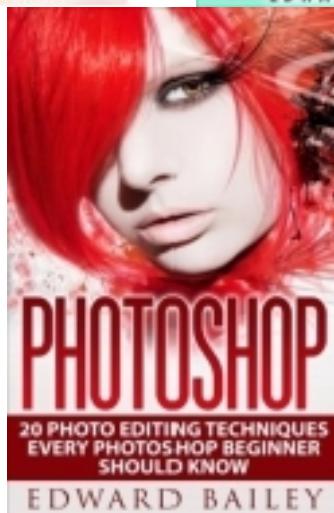
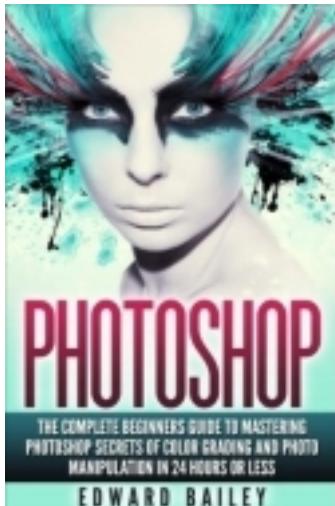
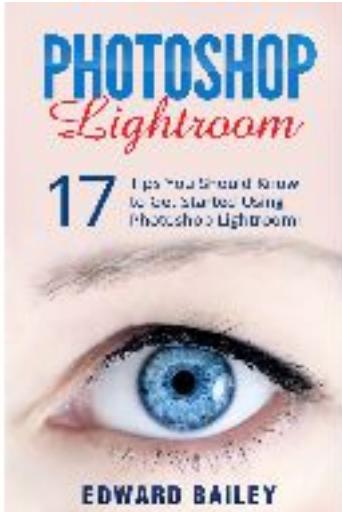
I hope these books were able to help you to acquire basic knowledge about Photoshop and some of the options that Photoshop offers for making your photos look just like a magazine cover or other professional work of photography.

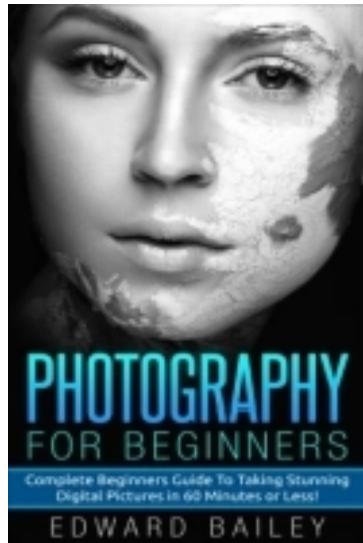
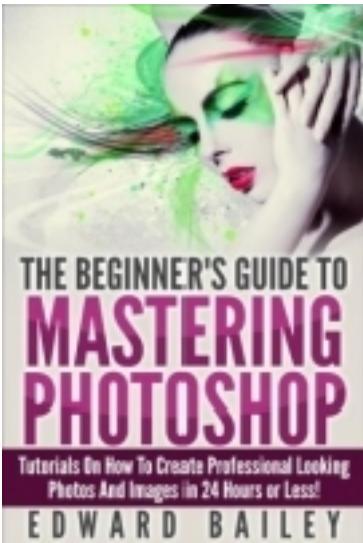
The next step is to open Photoshop and start editing your photos like a professional.

Finally, if you enjoyed this book, then I'd like to ask you for a favor. Would you be kind enough to leave a review for this book on Amazon? It would be greatly appreciated! Thank you and good luck!

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